GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1764
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2005
ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES FOR TRIBAL AREAS
Majhi Shri Parsuram

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has identified the tribal areas in various States facing shortage of essential commodities,

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to overcome the shortage?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN)

(a) to (c): State Governments/UTs work out the requirements of foodgrains and other essential items on the basis of number of beneficiaries identified by them for distribution under the Public Distribution System(PDS) to the card holders including those in the tribal areas. Central Government is allocating foodgrains to the States/UTs @ 35kgs. per family per month to Antodaya Anna Yojna (AAY), Below Poverty Line(BPL) and Above Poverty Line (APL) families on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission as projected by Registrar General of India as on 01.03.2000 or on the basis of number of beneficiaries identified by State/UT Governments and ration cards issued, whichever is less. Kerosene (SKO) allocation is made to the State Governments/UTs for further distribution under the PDS network on a historical basis. In accordance with the policy adopted by the Central Government in 2000, Kerosene (SKO) allocation for distribution under the PDS was reduced every year beginning 2001-02 till 2003-04, taking into account the number of LPG connections released in each State/Union Territory. While the initial allotment for 2004-05 was based on the criteria adopted hitherto, additional allocations were made during the year to meet emergent demand. For the year 2005-06, allocations have been maintained at the level of 2004-05, including additional allocation made during that year. Central Government have not been reported by the State/UT Governments about the shortages of allocation of foodgrains/other Essential Commodities in the tribal areas.